

THE GREENE LEAFLET

News for OSU Extension Greene County Master Gardener Volunteers

May/June 2023

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

from Debbie Downes

What's Growing for your Kitchen?

Many of you are avid food growers. You might have a farm, or you helped grow, harvest and preserve your food as a child, or you have an opportunity to grow in a community garden or on your property. Certainly, you have an impressive wealth of knowledge and experience to share. Others of you grow specific vegetables like tomatoes, peppers, and beans. Each year you get to eat those homegrown favorites. Or maybe you simply love to plant herbs and enjoy those fresh flavors in the dishes you prepare. Then, for a variety of reasons, there are those of you who rely on outside sources for produce, such as a farmer's market.

Remember those first dark days of COVID? Some very interesting changes happened. One was the growth in popularity for gardening, whether it was adding containers, digging a plot in the yard for vegetables, obtaining and caring for houseplants, or learning about and planting natives. People were getting in touch with the land and home they occupied, in part because they were forced to stay put.

But now the COVID restrictions have lifted. What are your opportunities to connect with not only other master gardeners, but those in your community through food production? What do you love talking about and sharing? What were your past successes?

Perhaps your enjoyment involves maintaining a master gardener garden plot. This may be located in a neighborhood with limited resources and few gardening opportunities. The promise is to foster growth by welcoming neighbors to stop, chat, and share the produce you've grown. The hope is that some of these neighbors will join the effort and begin planting and growing in the community plot.

Perhaps you enjoy speaking and sharing your food production expertise at schools, garden club meetings or at the library. As a result, others may begin planting for a food source, planning a garden bed, researching best practices, and ultimately begin growing food.

Examine your opportunities to teach, share, excite and inspire others. Sharing knowledge is such a big part of what we offer. Think about your gardening happy place and let others know what they can do. The result will be new friends, new purpose and community building. The possibilities are endless.

UPCOMING MEETING/EVENT/TEAM CALENDAR

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETINGS

All Meetings are at 6:30pm

February 8th, zoom
March 8th, zoom
April 12th, In-person
May 10th, In-person
June 14th, In-person
July 12th, In-person
August 9th, In-person
September 13th, In-person
October, TBD
November 8th, In-person

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

all meetings are at 10:30am

January 20th
February 17th
March 8th
April 21st
May 19th, zoom
June 16th
July 21st
August 18th
September 15th
October 20th
November 17th
December 15th

Updates will be posted on the website
greene.osu.edu

CONTINUING EDUCATION

CFAES

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Greene County – Agriculture and Natural Resources

Continuing Education Events Available to Master Gardener Volunteers

Additional Programs:

All programs will require pre-registration, for links go to greene.osu.edu

State OSUE MGV Lunch & Learn and Hort Happy Hour Webinar Series Fall 2022-Spring 2023

The Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden Events

Miami County Coffee with the Master Gardener Volunteers

Cuyahoga Master Gardeners

OSU Bee Lab Workshops & Webinars

Ohio Woodland Stewards Program



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COORDINATOR'S NOTES SECTION

I am pleased to let everyone know that we have a new ANR Educator in the office. Her name is Marina Miquilini, and she is originally from Brazil. You will find out more about Marina as you get to know her.

It has been a very dry late spring and I am sure everyone is doing their best to water without over watering. Remember, established landscape plants have extensive root systems and can withstand a short drought. If you choose to water, water long and deep with 7 to 10 days in between waterings. This will let the root systems to continue to develop deeply. If you water a little bit a lot of the time, you will have a shallow root system that is not well developed and makes the shrubs susceptible to winter kill and drought damage.

Turf is a different scenario. Turf has a shallow root system and in Ohio, our turf is cool season grasses. This means the grass naturally goes dormant in the hot, dry summer months. This year, that has come early. You may choose to water your turf. Again, be careful about how much water and how often. Check out information at

<https://buckeyeturf.osu.edu/news/drought-stress-underway> This article will give you great information if you wish to irrigate your grass. Do remember to raise your mower blade and not to mow very often until the grass begins to grow again!

Kim

UPDATES IN ANR

This is my first time writing here so I would like to present myself first. My name is Marina Miquilini, and I since was a kid, I have been passionate about agriculture, which motivated my studies in agronomy and animal sciences. Therefore, I graduated as an Agronomical Engineer at the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil, where I grow up. During my undergrad, I focused my studies on forage crops and pastures and also worked in research labs, where I build a strong research background.

This year, I completed my master's degree in the Animal Science department at Ohio State University. During my master's degree, my studies emphasized sustainable agriculture and my master's project focused on understanding the effects of flooding on forage crops. Perennial forage crops provide a permanent soil cover. It is beneficial in flooding-prone areas because it reduces nutrient losses to water, but we also found a decrease in nutrient losses to air by greenhouse gas emissions, plus it can generate good forage quality.

During my education, I developed a keen interest in extension and outreaching knowledge to the community, leading me to be an Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator in Greene County. I started working in late May and I moved to Xenia OH. I am very excited to work and to meet you all. I am open to suggestions and ideas; I want to know you all and the community's needs. Please let me know how I can help.

And always feel free to stop by the OSU extension office, call (937-736-7205), or email me (miquilini.1@osu.edu).

Warm wishes,

Marina



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OSU Extension Greene County Master Gardener Volunteer 2023 Officers:

President - Debbie Downes

Vice President - Jane Worth

Secretary - Kathy Lewis

Treasurer - Skip Mahan

Board Members At Large -

Sarah Preston

Pam Carter

Rebecca Elniski

ExOfficio Board Member - Kim Hupman, Horticulture Program Assistant (937) 736-7209

Past President - Dan Denham

The Greene Leaflet Editor – Pat Zehring at zehring.5@osu.edu

Next Newsletter Deadline: July 12, 2023

We welcome all suggestions, thoughts, calendar dates for this newsletter.
Please e-mail your comments, articles, photos, and dates